



الأكاديمية الدولية - عمان
THE INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY - AMMAN

Parent News Monday, 15th January 2024

Calendar

JANUARY 24

15 MON

Information Session for G8 Parents on G10/9 Subject Packages
09:00 am to 10:00 am
Theatre

A Message from The Director

Dear IAA Community,

I trust this finds you in good health and high spirits as we embark upon a new year! As I extend my warm wishes for a prosperous 2024, I am delighted to witness the harmonious reintegration of our students into the

academic fold following a well-deserved winter break. Their swift return to the classroom, accompanied by a palpable enthusiasm for learning, is a testament to their resilience and commitment to academic excellence.

In the relentless march of time, we find ourselves rapidly approaching the conclusion of term one, with the commencement of our second term scheduled for January 28th. This juncture prompts a reflection on the collective achievements and the fortitude displayed by our students, faculty, and the broader school community. I express my sincere appreciation for your unwavering dedication to fostering a nurturing educational environment.

As we chart the course for the remaining academic year, I would like to bring to your attention the imperative of re-registration for the academic year (2024/2025). In order to secure a seat for your children in the coming academic year, we kindly request parents to complete the re-registration process by filling out the needed forms and settling their children's school fees before the conclusion of this month. Your prompt collaboration in this regard is essential to ensure the seamless continuity of our educational mission. Should you have any inquiries, please don't hesitate to contact our Admissions team at (+962-777627597) or (admissions@iaa.edu.jo).

In the realm of academic accomplishments, I am thrilled to announce that a few of our seniors have garnered early acceptances, notably from esteemed institutions such as ***Oxford*** and ***Stanford***! Heartfelt congratulations are extended to those who have attained these significant milestones. Your pursuit of excellence and dedication to scholarly pursuits are truly commendable. Anticipating further triumphs, I look forward to celebrating additional acceptances by the culmination of March.

May the forthcoming months be marked by continued growth, unwavering determination, and a collective commitment to excellence. I extend my sincere gratitude for your steadfast support, which propels IAA to the pinnacle of educational distinction.

Warmest regards,

Hana Kanan, Ed. D.
Director

Primary School News

Welcome Back!

Happy New Year to all! I hope everyone enjoyed a restful and pleasant winter holiday. It was wonderful to see everyone back at school last week, recharged and ready for action. As we approach the beginning of another busy term, our teachers are currently in the process of report writing and are excited to share the progress of our students over the course of term one. Once again, our students have shown their commitment and dedication in striving to be the best they can be!

The 'Force' was with us in KG2 last Thursday!

Many thanks and congratulations to the PE department and the KG2 team for a wonderful Parent event. The children participated in a range of activities that required them to use their muscles and Push or Pull. They were challenged physically and mentally, then they returned to class to proudly exhibit the models they made from recycled materials. This truly embedded their understanding of the 'forces' at play in every move we make. A thoroughly enjoyable event for everyone.

Child Protection Lessons

As part of our PSHE curriculum, the primary counselling team will begin teaching child protection lessons from the Second Step program. These lessons will start with general safety tips related to everyday situations before moving on to subjects such as safe, unsafe, and unwanted touches, and what to do if someone makes you feel uncomfortable. Our counsellors will also run a parent workshop to explain the material that will be covered at each grade level. These sessions take place during key learning times, and it is essential that our students attend. If you need further clarification or have any questions, please contact our counsellors Ms. Ebtisam and Ms. Sophie.

Early Years Admissions

At this time of year, the process of enrolling children for Pre-KG1 and KG2 picks up momentum. We have received considerable interest from new families regarding enrolling their children at the school for the next academic year. Many of our teachers are currently conducting admission interviews with prospective students for placements in our Pre-K, KG1, and KG2 programs. For parents who have not yet applied, I encourage you to do so as soon as possible to secure a placement for your child at IAA.

Punctuality at School

In the weeks leading up to the winter break, we noticed an increase in the number of students arriving at school after the start of the school day. The school day begins at 8:30 am, and students should be in their classrooms seated and ready to start at this time. If a student arrives after this time, they will miss the start of the school day. We kindly ask for your support in ensuring that your child arrives at school between 8:00 am and 8:15 am so they are ready for the school day.

Feedback from the Warm Winter Campaign

Supporting those in need is a priority for us, and our charity efforts have been extremely successful. The recipients of our "Food Packages" and "Warm Winter Campaigns" were very grateful and appreciative of our donations. A huge thank you to everyone who has contributed. Every contribution made a difference, and our staff and students have done an amazing job coordinating this process and sharing with those in the community who will benefit. We hope you are as proud of our students as we are.

Wishing you a wonderful couple of weeks ahead.

Walid Albay
Primary School Principal

Secondary School News

Dear Parents

Winter Assemblies

The escalating tragedy in Gaza continues to leave us with emotions of anger, sadness and despair. At IAA, we aim to continue to find ways to support our Palestinian families and friends. Prior to the break, we dedicated our winter assembly to Gaza, inviting our alumni to share with us what they have been doing to support Palestine. Witnessing their impactful contributions, whether through donations, leading protests, educating others and addressing misinformation on their social media platforms, was humbling. Through in-person presentations and videos, our students observed firsthand how they too have the means to take action and make a difference. We also had some heartfelt musical performances and the traditional Dabkeh, highlighting the powerful role of music in expressing our sentiments and support for Palestine. A huge thank you to everyone who was involved in these events.

If you would like to see any of the assembly, it can be viewed through Toddle and the link can be found in a sub-folder named "Assemblies" in the 'School Polies' folder.

Continuing Support

The dire needs of the population in Gaza, for shelter, medical aid, warmth and food continue to grow especially with the onset of winter. Our support can make a difference and we will dedicate again our next **Civvies Day and Bake Sale on the 25th January** for JHCO. The Bake Sale and Civvies, plus the Candy Cane initiative run by the Student Council in December raised 1,000's of JDs which we have been able to send to JHCO to add to their ongoing programme of relief for Gaza.

End of Semester 1 Reports and Parent Conferences

As we draw to the close of Semester 1 it is a very busy time for assessments for our students. **Reports will be sent out on Thursday the 8th February** and an early reminder that the **next Parent Conferences are on Thursday 15th February**. Please note that this is a change of date from the official school calendar that was sent out at the beginning of the year.

Winter is here

Please ensure your children are appropriately dressed for the cold and wet weather. We have noticed a number coming in on cold or wet days wearing minimal clothing and with wet hair which should be avoided. A reminder that students would have coats that are properly weatherproof (not fleeces or branded hoodies) that are either black, dark blue or dark brown. Thank you.

Importance of Hydration

We have noticed an increasing number of students coming to school who are not bringing sufficient, if any water, with them. The importance of water for general health and maintaining alertness during the day is well documented. There are literally 100's of expensive water flasks in our lost properties in the secondary Building and Cafeteria. If your child has lost theirs, there is a good chance it has ended up in one of these locations. Please ensure your children come to school with full and reusable water bottles. Thank you.

Sincerely

Mr Martin and Ms Zena

College and Career Counselling News

Welcome back everyone and a peaceful 2024 inshallah!

January is the month when all applications are finalized. We spent the Christmas break sending off pending applications; particularly to US and we now await college decisions around March and April. Congratulations to those who have finished and are holding their offers already. I am very excited to see this graduating class venture into their respective career paths; they are smart, hardworking and very ambitious – I know they'll be going places. I wish them all the best of luck during this crucial period of time as universities await G12's recent grades to make decisions.

Moving forward, the Counselling office will begin its one on one meetings with G11 starting 16th January. During this lengthy and thorough session, we will discuss student's choices, aspirations and set the necessary goals to achieving them. With more than 85 students to counsel, it is very important that everyone books their slot on Moodle as soon as possible. We also ask that parents attend these sessions to answer any individual queries they may have and so the circle of communication is complete.

Further to our G11 meetings, we have also emailed all G10 students and parents asking them to book their meeting slots for Diploma subject choices. Following our last semester's sessions about IB and subject briefings, students have a better understanding of the IB requirements and can now make informed decisions about their futures. We urge everyone to make their booking using Moodle early as we will need to gauge students' preferences and make the necessary preparations for timetabling.

A very busy two months ahead. I look forward to meeting our rising Seniors and Juniors to begin the very exciting yet demanding process of college counselling.

Sincerely,

Aya Abdel Hadi

Library News

Welcome to the New Year!

Preparations are on the way in the libraries for Book Week this year. It is a time to celebrate books and to continue fostering a love of reading. Book week will be at the beginning of February and more information will be coming to you soon. We are focusing on enriching our cultural heritage and identity so there will be a concentration on our Arabic language through our local authors, visitors and events. It will be an exciting week full of activities!

We are continuing our libraries makerspace activities in the libraries this year and we do an activity for each grade level every other week and yesterday's activity was for Grade 4. These activities provide hands-on creativity and encourage students to explore and innovate. We made some dreamcatcher keychains out of paper quilling yesterday and they were magnificent!

I'd like to remind you that our libraries offer a wealth of tools to enrich your child's learning journey whether it be through captivating novels to databases and credible resources for research. We have a large collection of ebooks in the primary library and a much larger one in the secondary library including popular fiction titles for all grade levels and study guides for many subjects. For research needs, please don't let your children always rely on Google! The libraries are subscribed to some of the most reliable and credible resources. [Britannica School](#) (all school), [Gale](#) (secondary students) has a large collection of information from journals, magazines, newspapers, and reference eBooks. [JSTOR](#) (beneficial to DP students) has a vast number of articles from scholarly journals. All of these resources are available 24/7 and can be accessed through the [library website](#). Just choose which library you would like to visit; log in details are on the page.

If you have any questions about library resources, please contact Secondary Librarian Patricia Power at p.power@iaa.edu.jo, Dima Shaka'a at d.shakaa@iaa.edu.jo (Primary) or Suha Hadidi at s.hadidi@iaa.edu.jo (KG).

Warm Regards,,

Dima Shaka'a
Head of Libraries and Primary Librarian

Sports News

Good day,

Before starting to address the most important sports news of the hawks for the second season, it is necessary first and foremost, to share my heartfelt felicitations to everyone as we embrace the New Year. In this time of hope, our most fervent desires center around halting the atrocious war

and putting an end to the cruel siege tormenting our brethren in Gaza. May their innocent children savor the sweetness of safety and freedom. Our hearts ache in solidarity, and our fervent prayers resound ceaselessly in their favor.

In light of the most significant news of the month, we are thrilled to announce Nizar Al Soufi's outstanding accomplishments at the second Arab Championship for juniors in swimming, hosted in Qatar. Nizar's dedication and prowess in the pool earned him a well-deserved gold medal in the 100m breaststroke and a commendable silver medal in the 50m breaststroke. Heartfelt congratulations to Nizar for this remarkable achievement! We extend our sincere wishes for his continuous growth and even greater triumphs in the future.

The entire school community, including its management and staff, takes immense pride in having Nizar as a student in our institution. His success not only reflects his personal commitment but also adds to the pride and reputation of our school. We look forward to witnessing Nizar's ongoing journey of excellence and celebrating more of his achievements in the days ahead.

As for our IAA Hawk's sports events news, the main focus this season will be on resuming training for all school teams in preparation for participation in various local championships. Additionally, we are excited to announce the launch of the third session of IAA Hawk's sports activities for primary students. Participation in a wide variety of sports activities is a vital part of a student's educational experience. At IAA, students have the opportunity to engage in football, basketball, gymnastics, taekwondo, track & field and swimming.

We maintain our full confidence in the importance of participating in overseas events. Among our plans for this season is our participation in the Qatar International Volleyball Championship for schools in February. Following this, we will explore several options for our overseas participation in a basketball tournament. These types of sporting events offer a chance for kids to interact with peers from different backgrounds, fostering cultural understanding and empathy. Additionally, competing against diverse opponents' challenges players and helps them develop their skills through exposure to different playing styles and strategies.

For further details, please click on the link below

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1aK4O-juZm-MHUiGa9fazS0Dxb4275bQm/view?usp=sharing>

Thank you.